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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nishikawa

Art Unit: 2175

Serial Number: 09/742,657

Examiner: Mahmoudi

Filing Date: 12/21/2000

Title: DATABASE SYSTEM INCLUDING HIERARCHICAL LINK TABLE

Mail Stop: Non Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2004

Technology Center 2100

Introductory Comments

Dear Sir:

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action dated 12/17/03.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the following amendment and remarks.